



NEWS RELEASE

Media Contact:

Sarah Ardalani
Public Information Officer
213-257-2000
SArdalani@da.lacounty.gov
Twitter: @LADAOOffice

July 19, 2017

Man Sentenced to LWOP for Neighbor's 2012 Murder

A 25-year-old man was sentenced today to life in state prison without the possibility of parole for breaking into his neighbor's home and killing her, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

On June 29, Luis Fernando Diofron Lemus pleaded guilty to one count of murder in case VA126612.

The defendant also admitted a special circumstance allegation that the killing was committed during a burglary.

Moreover, Lemus admitted a special allegation that he personally used a deadly and dangerous weapon, a knife, during the crime.

Deputy District Attorney Araceli Otero, who prosecuted the case, said on Aug. 10, 2012, Lemus broke into his neighbor's Norwalk home and fatally stabbed the 50-year-old woman.

Following the killing, the defendant fled to Guatemala where he remained for several years. Lemus was located in December 2014 and extradited to Los Angeles County four months later, the prosecutor added.

The case was investigated by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

[About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](#)

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to protecting our community through the fair and ethical pursuit of justice and the safeguarding of crime victims' rights.